

ABSTRACT

A system and method for ^{Selective} selecting paging provides a page to a paging transceiver but does not automatically provide an associated message. The paging transceiver receives the page and alerts the user that a message is waiting and preferably provides a short description of the message. The user can then download or otherwise act on the message at a time and at a place convenient to the user. The user can therefore place the paging transceiver in a location where it can easily receive and reply to the message. The paging system conserves air time and the paging transceiver conserves memory by not automatically receiving the associated messages. The paging transceiver can receive transmissions during off-peak hours and has a timer which can be programmed so that messages are delivered at a desired time. The content of the messages may be stored in a plurality of different systems and one or more of these systems may page the paging transceiver to inform it of the messages. The paging transceiver may retrieve the messages from the system paging, even though it may not store the message, or directly from the system storing the message. The messages stored by the systems and delivered to the paging transceiver may be of different types, such as voice, text, audio, or even video. In addition to messages, the paging system can store other information for the user, such as songs or video clips that the user can sample or updates on weather or stock rates.